

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 01798 200952Z

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4300

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 1798

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR RH

SUBJ: RHODESIA: VISIT BY STAFFDEL SCHNEIDER AND FEULNER

1. STAFFDEL VISITED SALISBURY APRIL 17-18 AND BRIEFED US ON RETURN APRIL 19. THEY SAW VAN DER BYL AND SUTTON-PRICE AS WELL AS TWO SENIOR CIVIL SERVICE TYPES. VAN DER BYL TOLD THEM IAN SMITH AT END OF THIS WEEK WOULD ANNOUNCE APPOINTMENTS TWO-THREE BLACKS TO MINISTERIAL POSTS AS WELL AS APPOINTING BLACKS TO A NUMBER PARASTATAL BOARDS SUCH AS KARIBA DAM COMMISSION. MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS WOULD BE FROM RANKS OF TRADITIONAL CHIEFS. SCHNEIDER ALSO SAID THAT THERE WOULD ALSO BE A NUMBER OF CHANGES IN VARIOUS DISCRIMINATROY LAWS BUT THAT EHY WERE TOLD THAT FULL DETAILS THIS PROGRAM HAD NOT BEEN WORKED OUT.

2. STAFFDEL DISCUSSED THESE IMPENDING CHANGES WITH NKOMO DEPUTY WHO DISMISSED THEM AS "TOO LITTLE TO LATE" AND THUS UNACCEPTABLE TO ANC.

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3. THEY SAID VAN DER BYL PLAYED HARD ON SEMANTICS

DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN MAJORITY RULE AND ONE-MAN, ONE-VOTE CONCEPT, IN OTHER WORDS, BY IMPLICATION A CONTINUED ROLE FOR WHITES IN RHODESIA IN THE GOVERNMENT WITHOUT A COMPLETE TURNOVER TO BLACK RULE. THEY WERE TOLD THAT THE IAN SMITH STATEMENT OF "NEVER IN A THOUSAND YEARS" WAS TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT AND THAT WHAT SMITH WAS REALLY CLAIMING WAS SOME FORM OF CONTINUED WHITE ROLE IN RHODESIA.

4. STAFFDEL ALSO TALKED WITH NUMBER OF JUNIOR RHODESIAN ARMY OFFICERS WHO EXUDED CONFIDENCE ON THEIR ABILITY TO HANDLE THE SITUATION.
BOWDLER

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